

**CATALOGUE NUMBER 1308.2**

**24 JULY 1989**

**MONTHLY BUSINESS INDICATORS  
VICTORIA, JULY 1989**

**INQUIRIES** Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made by telephoning Information Services on Melbourne (03) 615 7000; for advice on the interpretation of these statistics ask for Dinny Jaconis.

This publication provides the latest available information on a wide range of business indicators. In a number of cases the information is provisional and may be revised in subsequent issues. For more comprehensive data and explanations of series included refer to the following publications issued by the ABS.

**ACTUAL PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

*State Estimates of Private New Capital Expenditure (5646.0) (quarterly) (\$7.50)*

**EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES**

*Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia (6302.0) (quarterly) (\$8.00)*

*Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Australia (6312.0) (monthly) (\$8.00)*

*Job Vacancies, Australia (6231.0) (quarterly) (\$3.00)*

*Overtime, Australia (6330.0) (quarterly) (\$3.00)*

*The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0) (monthly) (\$12.00)*

**PRICES**

*Consumer Price Index (6401.0) (quarterly) (\$8.00)*

*Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Six State Capital Cities and Darwin (6407.0) (monthly) (\$8.00)*

*Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities (6408.0) (monthly) (\$3.25)*

**BUILDING**

*Building Activity, Australia (8752.0) (quarterly) (\$11.50)*

*Building Approvals, Australia (8731.0) (monthly) (\$8.00)*

**RETAIL TRADE**

*Retail Trade, Australia (8501.0) (monthly) (\$8.00)*

*Information Paper: Introduction of Improved Monthly Retail Trade Statistics (8511.0)*

**PRODUCTION**

*Monthly Summary of Statistics, Victoria (1303.2) (\$7.50)*

**NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS**

*Motor Vehicle Registrations, Australia (9303.0) (monthly) (\$8.00)*

**BANKS**

*Monthly Summary of Statistics, Victoria (1303.2) (\$7.50)*

**HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION**

*Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (5609.0) (monthly) (\$7.50)*

**OVERSEAS TRADE**

*Exports, Australia, Monthly Summary Tables (5432.0) (\$7.50)*

*Imports, Australia, Monthly Summary Tables (5433.0) (\$7.50)*

**R.A. CROCKETT**

*Deputy Commonwealth Statistician*



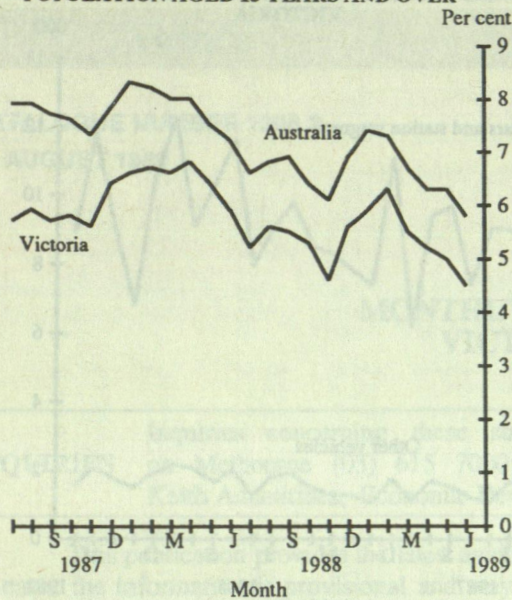
## MONTHLY BUSINESS INDICATORS, VICTORIA, JULY 1989

| Indicator  |             | Latest period | Latest figure | Figures for preceding three periods |             |               | Figure one year ago | Change over year per cent | Latest Aust. figure | Change over year Aust. per cent |       |
|--|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|-------|
|  |             |               |               | One period                          | Two periods | Three periods |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| LABOUR FORCE   |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| Employed persons   | - full-time | '000          | Jun 89        | 1,621.4                             | 1,630.6     | 1,631.2       | 1,615.6             | 1,556.6                   | 4.2                 | 6,125.3                         | 4.5   |
|  | - total     | '000          | Jun 89        | 2,051.0                             | 2,054.6     | 2,038.5       | 2,025.7             | 1,948.6                   | 5.3                 | 7,720.5                         | 5.0   |
| Unemployed persons looking for work                                      | - full-time | '000          | Jun 89        | 69.8                                | 77.1        | 76.6          | 84.8                | 92.0                      | -24.1               | 378.2                           | -17.7 |
|  | - total     | '000          | Jun 89        | 96.0                                | 108.5       | 112.0         | 117.1               | 122.9                     | -21.9               | 477.4                           | -16.0 |
| Labour force   |             | '000          | Jun 89        | 2,147.0                             | 2,163.1     | 2,150.5       | 2,142.8             | 2,071.5                   | 3.6                 | 8,197.9                         | 3.5   |
| Participation rate   | per cent    |               | Jun 89        | 63.6                                | 64.1        | 63.9          | 63.7                | 62.3                      | 2.1                 | 62.9                            | 1.0   |
| Unemployment rate  | per cent    |               | Jun 89        | 4.5                                 | 5.0         | 5.2           | 5.5                 | 5.9                       | -23.7               | 5.8                             | -19.4 |
| Job vacancies  | '000        |               | May qr 89     | 24.1                                | 21.2        | 19.5          | 18.1                | 18.6                      | 29.6                | 73.1                            | 25.0  |
| Overtime worked per employee   | hours       |               | May qr 89     | 1.57                                | 1.52        | 1.56          | 1.45                | 1.54                      | 1.9                 | 1.46                            | 5.8   |
| AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS  |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| Full-time adult ordinary time earnings -                                 |             | \$            | Feb qr 89     | 494.90                              | 487.00      | 475.90        | 469.30              | 465.50                    | 6.3                 | 492.30                          | 14.6  |
| Males  |             | \$            | Feb qr 89     | 528.40                              | 516.60      | 504.40        | 498.30              | 493.90                    | 7.0                 | 521.90                          | 14.9  |
| Females  |             | \$            | Feb qr 89     | 430.80                              | 429.20      | 420.10        | 412.20              | 409.30                    | 5.3                 | 431.30                          | 14.8  |
| All employees total earnings   |             | \$            | Feb qr 89     | 435.10                              | 429.60      | 417.00        | 414.90              | 414.40                    | 5.0                 | 436.30                          | 14.4  |
| Males  |             | \$            | Feb qr 89     | 512.20                              | 503.30      | 486.30        | 483.50              | 476.30                    | 7.5                 | 511.60                          | 15.1  |
| Females  |             | \$            | Feb qr 89     | 336.50                              | 333.40      | 324.60        | 322.70              | 326.70                    | 3.0                 | 334.80                          | 15.1  |
| CONSUMER PRICES (a)  |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| Consumer Price Index, Melbourne (1980-81=100) -                          |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| Food   | index       |               | Mar qr 89     | 183.9                               | 182.3       | 179.5         | 174.0               | 167.7                     | 9.7                 | 180.5                           | 9.4   |
| Clothing   | index       |               | Mar qr 89     | 177.3                               | 177.5       | 171.2         | 170.3               | 163.3                     | 8.6                 | 175.9                           | 7.3   |
| Housing  | index       |               | Mar qr 89     | 207.3                               | 204.5       | 193.7         | 189.1               | 186.8                     | 11.0                | 197.7                           | 11.6  |
| Household equipment & operation  | index       |               | Mar qr 89     | 182.3                               | 181.1       | 178.6         | 176.8               | 174.7                     | 4.4                 | 183.1                           | 5.6   |
| Transportation   | index       |               | Mar qr 89     | 184.5                               | 181.3       | 181.1         | 180.8               | 180.2                     | 2.4                 | 193.6                           | 2.7   |
| Tobacco & alcohol  | index       |               | Mar qr 89     | 204.8                               | 201.9       | 201.9         | 199.1               | 195.6                     | 4.7                 | 210.1                           | 5.2   |
| Health & personal care   | index       |               | Mar qr 89     | 203.7                               | 192.6       | 192.6         | 190.8               | 185.8                     | 9.6                 | 191.1                           | 8.5   |
| Recreation & education (Mar qr 1982=100)                                 | index       |               | Mar qr 89     | 165.4                               | 163.7       | 161.1         | 160.4               | 158.6                     | 4.3                 | 163.2                           | 5.1   |
| All groups   | index       |               | Mar qr 89     | 188.7                               | 186.2       | 183.0         | 180.4               | 177.1                     | 6.5                 | 188.0                           | 6.8   |
| RETAIL SALES (excl. motor vehicles, etc)                                 |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
|  | \$m         |               | Apr 89        | 1,606.4                             | 1,678.3     | 1,495.8       | 1,582.4             | 1,548.1                   | 3.8                 | 6,215.0                         | 8.8   |
| PRODUCTION   |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| Manufacturing -  |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| Clay bricks  | million     |               | Mar 89        | 33.1                                | 35.7        | 25.0          | 30.3                | 43.5                      | -23.9               | 175                             | -4.9  |
| Ready mixed concrete   | '000 cu.m   |               | Mar 89        | 370                                 | 403         | 248           | 338                 | 362                       | 2.2                 | 1,415                           | -1.5  |
| Plastics & synthetic resins (b)  | tonnes      |               | Mar 89        | 32,924                              | 37,577      | 34,447        | 36,325              | 42,344                    | -22.2               | 45,393                          | -28.6 |
| Textile floor coverings  | '000 sq.m   |               | Mar 89        | 3,004                               | 3,040       | 1,573         | 3,042               | 3,038                     | -1.1                | 3,772                           | 2.4   |
| Cars & station wagons  | '000        |               | Mar 89        | 14.2                                | 13.6        | 3.2           | 13.1                | 19.7                      | -27.9               | 26.6                            | -15.0 |
| Yarns - Cotton   | tonnes      |               | Mar 89        | 951                                 | 798         | 159           | 707                 | 751                       | 26.6                | 1,914                           | 15.1  |
| - Wool   | tonnes      |               | Mar 89        | 1,284                               | 1,342       | 638           | 1,312               | 1,470                     | -12.7               | 1,653                           | -22.2 |
| Woven fabric - Cotton  | '000 sq.m   |               | Mar 89        | 1,421                               | 1,355       | 332           | 911                 | 1,765                     | -19.5               | 3,033                           | -12.5 |
| - Woollen (incl. worsted wool)   | '000 sq.m   |               | Mar 89        | 514                                 | 484         | 324           | 399                 | 659                       | -22.0               | 832                             | -22.2 |
| - Man-made fibres  | '000 sq.m   |               | Mar 89        | 7,092                               | 7,591       | 4,247         | 6,414               | 7,326                     | -3.2                | 16,753                          | 9.3   |
| Electricity  | million kWh |               | Mar 89        | 3,279                               | 2,967       | 2,858         | 2,928               | 2,538                     | 29.2                | 12,225                          | 7.0   |
| OVERSEAS TRADE   |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| Imports  | \$m         |               | May 89        | 1,563.0                             | 1,343.0     | 1,310.0       | 1,205.2             | 1,259.0                   | 24.1                | 4,665.6                         | 27.6  |
| Exports (excl. re-exports)   | \$m         |               | Apr 89        | 751.9                               | 644.7       | 763.9         | 689.9               | 920.2                     | -18.3               | 3,860.3                         | 7.6   |
| BUILDING   |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| Approvals -  |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| New houses   | No.         |               | May 89        | 3,821                               | 3,156       | 2,950         | 3,032               | 2,634                     | 45.1                | 12,177                          | 1.8   |
| New other residential building   | No.         |               | May 89        | 295                                 | 200         | 220           | 92                  | 347                       | -15.0               | 4,975                           | 49.9  |
| Value of all building  | \$m         |               | May 89        | 714.4                               | 592.1       | 579.6         | 527.6               | 831.5                     | -14.1               | 3,024.2                         | 18.0  |
| Commencements -  |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| New houses   | No.         |               | Mar qr 89     | 8,200                               | 9,190       | 8,310         | 7,330               | 6,720                     | 22.0                | 30,540                          | 20.4  |
| Value of new houses  | \$m         |               | Mar qr 89     | 665.6                               | 760.0       | 652.0         | 557.0               | 520.2                     | 28.0                | 2,430.3                         | 37.7  |
| New other residential buildings  | No.         |               | Mar qr 89     | 767                                 | 782         | 1,263         | 1,034               | 1,298                     | -40.9               | 9,833                           | 24.4  |
| Value of new other residential buildings                                 | \$m         |               | Mar qr 89     | 45.6                                | 41.7        | 69.5          | 54.4                | 73.1                      | -37.6               | 737.8                           | 79.2  |
| Value of non-residential building  | \$m         |               | Mar qr 89     | 1,035.7                             | 961.2       | 709.2         | 1,053.8             | 593.8                     | 74.4                | 3,813.2                         | 32.6  |
| Value of all building  | \$m         |               | Mar qr 89     | 1,885.6                             | 1,889.4     | 1,545.1       | 1,773.4             | 1,291.9                   | 46.0                | 7,403.3                         | 37.8  |
| Work done in period  | \$m         |               | Mar qr 89     | 1,739.7                             | 1,808.0     | 1,618.9       | 1,464.7             | 1,321.8                   | 31.6                | 6,520.5                         | 27.1  |
| PRICE INDEXES OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING, MELBOURNE, ALL GROUPS - (c) |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| House building (1985-86=100)   | index       |               | Apr 89        | 129.6                               | 128.7       | 126.8         | 126.3               | 117.6                     | 10.2                | 129.9                           | 10.6  |
| Other than house building (1979-80=100)                                  | index       |               | Apr 89        | 217.2                               | 215.5       | 213.1         | 212.1               | 198.0                     | 9.7                 | 220.0                           | 8.6   |
| NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS  |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| Cars & station wagons  | No.         |               | Apr 89        | 10,474                              | 13,877      | 10,850        | 8,321               | 10,007                    | 4.7                 | 43,987                          | 19.7  |
| Other motor vehicles (excl. motor cycles)                                | No.         |               | Apr 89        | 8,903                               | 11,810      | 9,079         | 6,800               | 8,520                     | 4.5                 | 34,062                          | 14.7  |
| Motor cycles   | No.         |               | Apr 89        | 1,571                               | 2,067       | 1,771         | 1,521               | 1,487                     | 5.6                 | 9,925                           | 41.0  |
|  | No.         |               | Apr 89        | 299                                 | 586         | 270           | 373                 | 322                       | -7.1                | 1,508                           | 3.8   |
| BANKS  |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| Savings - Depositors' balances at end of period                          | \$m         |               | Apr 89        | 24,251                              | 23,840      | 23,727        | 23,220              | 21,325                    | 13.7                | 70,842                          | 20.5  |
| Major trading -  |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| Current deposits   | \$m         |               | Apr 89        | 6,217                               | 6,440       | 6,629         | 6,396               | 6,034                     | 3.0                 | 19,732                          | 1.3   |
| Fixed deposits   | \$m         |               | Apr 89        | 11,308                              | 10,393      | 9,665         | 9,288               | 7,456                     | 51.7                | 40,394                          | 43.2  |
| Advances   | \$m         |               | Apr 89        | 15,941                              | 15,326      | 14,933        | 14,851              | 14,703                    | 8.4                 | 53,336                          | 11.9  |
| Debits to customers' accounts (d)  | \$m         |               | Apr 89        | 35,428                              | 31,778      | 34,378        | 36,517              | 31,628                    | 12.0                | 190,567                         | 34.3  |
| HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION                                     |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| Secured commitments to individuals -                                     | \$m         |               | Apr 89        | 473.8                               | 536.5       | 509.4         | 453.6               | 467.9                     | 1.3                 | 1,686.1                         | -5.9  |
| Savings banks  | \$m         |               | Apr 89        | 363.6                               | 399.1       | 385.7         | 340.4               | 352.1                     | 3.3                 | 1,198.0                         | 0.6   |
| Trading banks  | \$m         |               | Apr 89        | 39.4                                | 54.9        | 45.7          | 36.1                | 24.4                      | 61.5                | 220.5                           | 21.0  |
| Permanent building societies   | \$m         |               | Apr 89        | 38.1                                | 43.0        | 47.6          | 45.3                | 58.2                      | -34.5               | 167.5                           | -49.9 |
| Other lenders  | \$m         |               | Apr 89        | 32.7                                | 39.5        | 30.4          | 31.7                | 33.4                      | -2.1                | 100.1                           | 18.2  |
| ACTUAL NEW FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (e)                                 |             |               |               |                                     |             |               |                     |                           |                     |                                 |       |
| Manufacturing  | \$m         |               | Dec qr 88     | 1,970                               | 1,523       | 1,786         | 1,426               | 1,716                     | 14.8                | 7,511                           | 14.4  |
| Finance  | \$m         |               | Dec qr 88     | 709                                 | 547         | 790           | 592                 | 626                       | 13.3                | 2,023                           | 20.3  |
| New building and structures  | \$m         |               | Dec qr 88     | 543                                 | 502         | 486           | 425                 | 541                       | 0.4                 | 2,087                           | 15.2  |
| Other new capital equipment  | \$m         |               | Dec qr 88     | 620                                 | 518         | 553           | 402                 | 537                       | 15.5                | 2,769                           | 15.6  |
|  | \$m         |               | Dec qr 88     | 1,350                               | 1,006       | 1,233         | 1,024               | 1,179                     | 14.5                | 4,742                           | 13.8  |

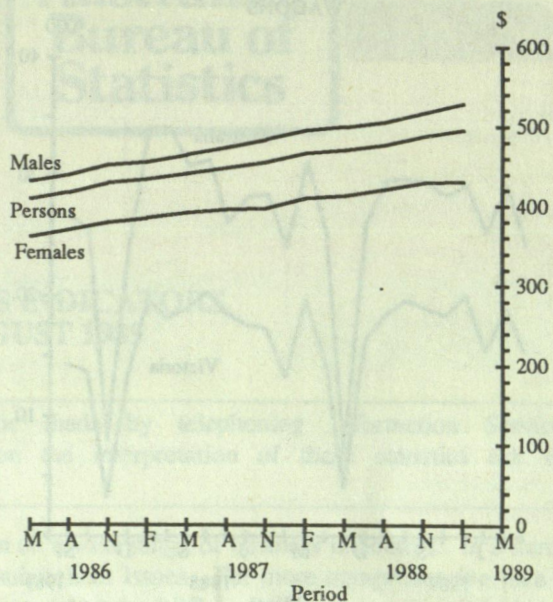
(a) The Australian figures for the CPI are the weighted average of eight capital cities figures. (b) For moulding, extrusion, laminating and calendering only. (c) The Australian figures for the Price indexes of Materials used in Building are the weighted average of six state capital cities figures. (d) All trading banks, and excluding debits to Commonwealth and State Government accounts at branches in the City of Melbourne. (e) By private enterprises.



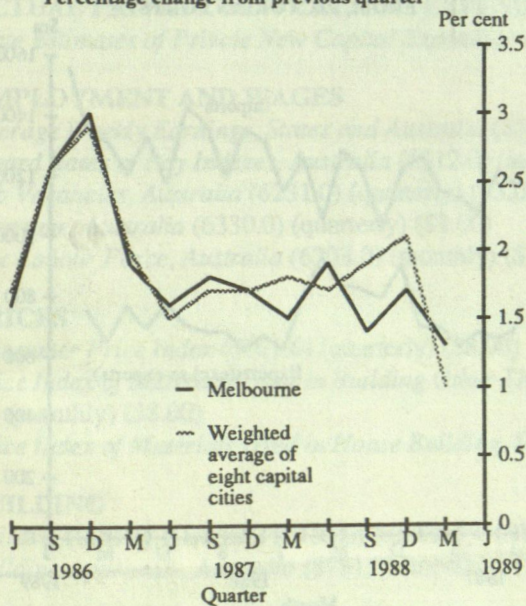
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF THE CIVILIAN  
POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER



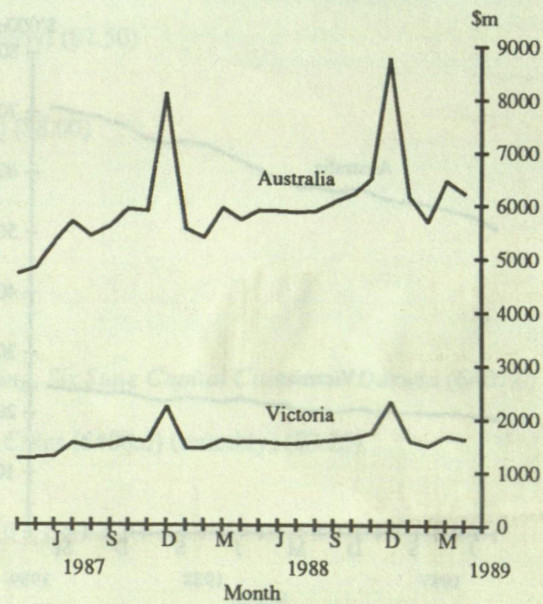
FULL-TIME ADULT AVERAGE WEEKLY  
ORDINARY TIME EARNINGS, VICTORIA



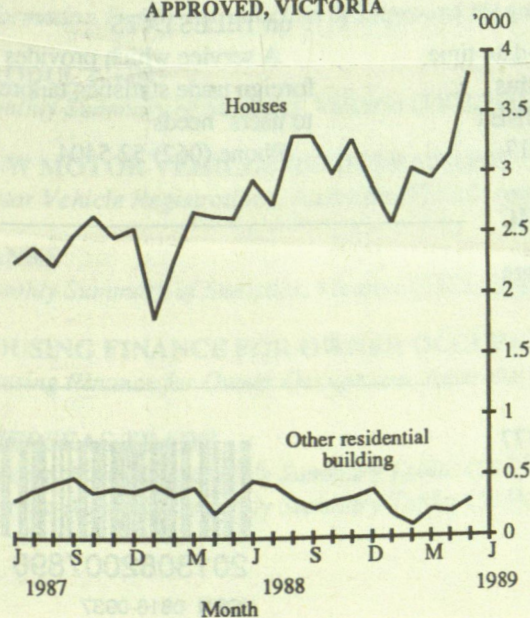
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: ALL GROUPS  
Percentage change from previous quarter



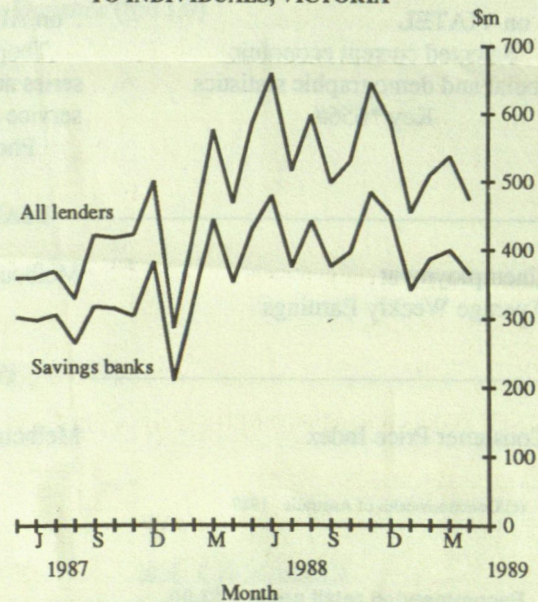
TURNOVER OF RETAIL  
ESTABLISHMENTS



NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS  
APPROVED, VICTORIA

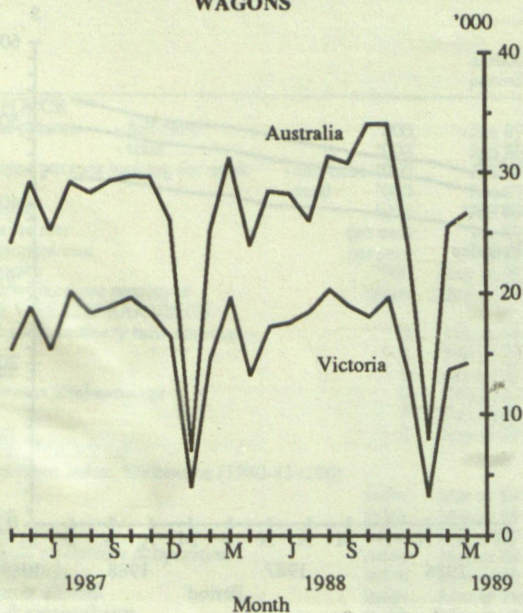


SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS  
TO INDIVIDUALS, VICTORIA

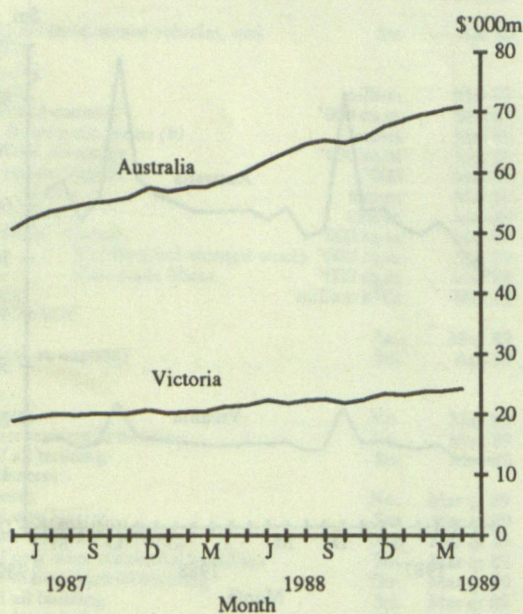




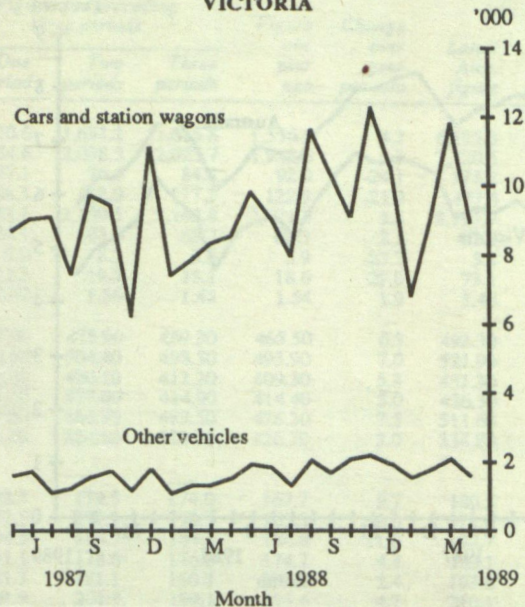
# PRODUCTION OF CARS AND STATION WAGONS



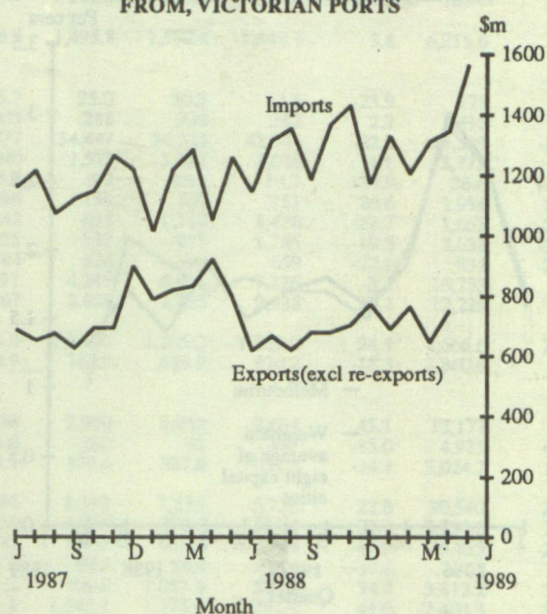
## SAVINGS BANKS: DEPOSITORS' BALANCES



# NEW MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED, VICTORIA



## VALUE OF IMPORTS INTO, AND EXPORTS FROM, VICTORIAN PORTS



## ABS ELECTRONIC SERVICES

### on VIATEL

Selected current economic  
social and demographic statistics  
Key \*656#

### on AUSSTATS

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## DIAL-A-STATISTIC

Unemployment  
Average Weekly Earnings

Melbourne (03) 615 7788

## CPI HOTLINE

Consumer Price Index

Melbourne (03) 615 7777

(c) Commonwealth of Australia 1989

Recommended retail price: \$3.00



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